

KCC 4773 (K-C 17,181)
PATENT

REMARKS

This letter is responsive to the Office action dated January 28, 2004.

The Office action requires election of a single disclosed species from among the following:

- 1a. A landing member comprising a neck-stretched laminate;
- 1b. A landing member comprising a crepe-stretched elastic laminate;
- 1c. A landing member comprising a nonwoven web stretch bonded to an elastomeric film; and
- 1d. A landing member comprising a mechanically prestrained composite.

The Office further requires election of a single disclosed species from among the following:

- 2a. A landing member forming part of an outer layer; and
- 2b. A landing member comprising side panels of the body.

The Office action takes the position that claims 9 and 19 are generic to all of the species of groups 1a-d and 2a-b.

Applicants respectfully traverse the election requirement only on the grounds that claim 1 is submitted to also be generic to all of the species of groups 1a-d and 2a-b. More specifically, the multi-directional stretchable landing member recited in claim 1 may be any of the species of groups 1a-d, and may comprise either of the species of groups 2a-b.

The above traverse of the election requirement notwithstanding, applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the species of group 1a, directed to the landing member comprising a neck-stretched laminate, and the species of group 2b,

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directed to the landing member comprising side panels of the body for further consideration. Applicants submit that claims 1-13, 16, 19, 22, 23, 25 and 26 all read on the elected species. Claims 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 24 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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RLB/tmg